

RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THORNTON FRACTIONAL TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
215 COMMITMENT TO ELIMINATE RACIAL INJUSTICE

WHEREAS, Thornton Fractional District 215 is committed to ensuring its schools provide safe and welcoming spaces where all students are able to focus on their education, secure in the knowledge that their safety and emotional well-being will be supported, regardless of race or ethnicity;

WHEREAS, Thornton Fractional District 215 recognizes that historical and ongoing systems of inequitable and inadequate resource allocation, punitive disciplinary practices, lack of access to and supports for administrators and teachers of color, unequal access to educational opportunities and supports, implicit bias, and segregation perpetuate inequity in the outcomes of students of different races and ethnicities;

WHEREAS, the recent killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Aubrey and countless other Black men and women, along with the backdrop of COVID-19 and its disproportionate impact on communities of color, provide an urgent reminder and rationale for ISBE to recommit, on behalf of the state's education community, to racial equity and justice; and

WHEREAS, Thornton Fractional District 215 is keenly aware that we and our school district can, with intentionality, do more.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Thornton Fractional District 215:

- (1) Supports our courageous and committed district leaders, teachers and students who have been organizing and participating in peaceful demonstrations for substantive and lasting change that honors the human dignity and protects the humanity of all members of our state;
- (2) Reaffirms its focus on developing and promoting district education policies that uplift, honor and promote equity of opportunity for our communities of color and identifying and dismantling any policies that, implicitly or explicitly, perpetuate institutional racism;
- (3) Recognizes our position of authority, will continuously check and question our biases, beliefs and actions, and asks to be held accountable so that this long overdue transformation towards racial justice becomes permanent and normalized, and does not fade when this tragic and painful moment passes; and,
- (4) Encourages all Illinois public school boards to join with us in a commitment to critically examine and address policies and practices with a racial equity lens, eliminate racial injustice and, as an important message to their communities, adopt and publicly post resolutions affirming that commitment to action.

Member Oberman moved the adoption of the Resolution and Member Yochem seconded it.

ADOPTED this 28th day of July, 2020, by the following vote:

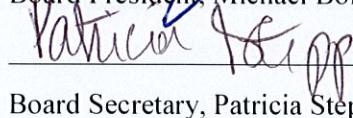
AYES: Bolz, Dust, Oberman, Revis, Stepp, Waller, Yochem

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None



Board President, Michael Bolz



Board Secretary, Patricia Stepp